GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1237
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2007
ANGANWADI SCHEME
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and the date of introduction of the Anganwadi scheme as well as the age limit of the children for which it was introduced;

(b) whether the objectives of the scheme has been achieved;

(c) the details of per capita expenditure fixed under the Integrated Child Development Services (Anganwadi) sceheme and the actual per capita expenditure being incurred during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the present amount being spent per capita is enough for complete nutrition of a child;

(e) if not, whether the Government is contemplating to enhance the allocation;

(f) if so, the time by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was launched in the year 1975, for children below the age of 6 years and pregnant women and lactating mothers.

The scheme was introduced with the objectives of improving nutritional and health status of children and women in the targeted groups.

(b) Various Surveys reveal that there has been a significant impact of the scheme in reducing the incidence of mortality and malnutrition level. As per Sample Registration System (SRS), Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 110 in 1981 to 58 per thousand live births in 2004. Similarly, Under-5 mortality has declined from 161 in 1983 to 77 per thousand lives in 2003. The overall decline in malnutrition amongst children below 3 years, as per findings of National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-3 (2005-06) has been 6% since 1992-93 when the 1st round of NFHS was carried out.

(c) Under the Scheme, the expenditure incurred towards supplementary nutrition is reckoned on the basis of per beneficiary cost.

The present cost norms are as follows:

Children	Norms
6 months to 72 months	Rs.2.00 per child/per day
Severely malnourished children (6 months to 72 months	Rs.2.70 per child/ per day
Pregnant women and nursing mothers/adolescent girls (under KSY)	Rs.2.30 per beneficiary/per day

Central assistance limited to 50% of actual expenditure incurred or 50% of the cost norms whichever is less, was introduced by the Government from the year 2005- 2006.

(d) As reported by the States, the expenditure towards supplementary nutrition, per beneficiary was Rs.1.10 and Rs.1.27 for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. It reveals that the States, on an average, have been spending less than the prescribed financial norms.

(e),(f)&(g) Enhancement in allocation, if any, will be considered in the Ministry's proposal for revamping of ICDS Scheme.